

Docket No.: 31229-232408  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Peter R. VAN SMIRREN

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 23, 2006

For: VEHICLE LOAD CARRIER

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.